

SPOTLIGHT ON BECKY MARTIN, THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!!!

1975: Jimmy Hoffa disappeared. *Jaws* terrified audiences. *All in the Family* was the top-rated TV show. Pet Rocks, Pong, and Betamax tapes hit the shelves. Captain & Tennille had the #1 song. Gas cost 53 cents a gallon. And Becky Martin began working for the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, which turned two that year. After almost 47 years on the job, Becky is the longest-serving City employee by far. Becky, who is retiring at the end of the year, was kind enough to answer some questions about herself, her role as a Permit Technician with Public Works and some of the changes she has seen in almost five decades of service.



First of all, congratulations on 46 plus years with the City. What first brought you to the City of Rancho Palos Verdes?

Several of my siblings had worked here prior to me when Robert E. Ryan Park, then known as RPV Park, was originally part of LA County.

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FIND THE BUTTERFLY!

Three tiny butterflies are fluttering by in this newsletter. Enjoy your search for these beautiful, fragile and sometimes endangered creatures.



LADERA LINDA COMMUNITY PARK



Following 39 years as a public park and six years of planning and extensive public outreach, Ladera Linda Community Park (newly renamed by the City Council on November 16) is finally ready for its makeover. A park master plan was approved by the City Council in 2019, the project was subsequently reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission in February 2021, and then it was upheld by the Council in April with modifications.

Staff has met with local residents and interested parties multiple times to address a wide range of issues including lighting, security, landscaping, traffic impacts, and Forrester Reserve parking. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2022 and is expected to last 18 months.

And what will be there after the

ground is broken, the ribbon is cut, and the speeches stop echoing?

The next stage in the life of a park that has served the community well for generations.

A thoughtfully designed and constructed neighborhood park with a functional, right-sized community center, wonderful trails, and improved amenities such as paddle tennis and basketball courts, a naturalistic playground, and a lower field.

A park that local residents and visitors can enjoy for decades to come

You can learn more about this project at <https://www.rpvca.gov/982/Ladera-Linda-Park-Master-Plan>.

To sign up for notifications of future updates and meetings go to <http://rpvca.gov/notify>.

TAKE THE LEAD!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021 RPV LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



The City is proud to congratulate all of the residents who participated in the 2021 RPV Leadership Academy. Participants learned about City history and the role of City departments, and heard from partner agencies and City Councilmembers. The Leadership Academy opened the doors of local government to the community and we are excited to see how the participants will further engage with City projects and activities.

Learn more about the Leadership Academy and how you can participate at <https://rpvca.gov/1413/Leadership-Academy>.

ICE SKATING BY THE SEA

FOR ONE MONTH ONLY STARTING DECEMBER 3RD AT THE RPV CIVIC CENTER



Grand Opening
Dec. 3 5-8 pm

1-8 pm Dec. 4-5, 10-12, 17-19, 27-31

Check the Rec Guide for more info or go to www.rpvca.gov/skate



Housing Element Update

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes' Housing Element Update is being developed to ensure the City is prepared to meet future housing needs from 2021 to 2029.



RPV NEEDS TO PLAN FOR 647 HOUSING UNITS OVER THE NEXT EIGHT YEARS. HERE'S WHY.

Like all California cities, every eight years, RPV is required to update the Housing Element of the City's General Plan. The Housing Element identifies the City's housing conditions and needs; and establishes goals, objectives, and policies to create mixed-income neighborhoods across the City. As part of the next update, RPV is required to plan for

647 new housing units in various income levels throughout the City in order to comply with its Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation, which is a target number of units assigned to the City. RPV's RHNA allocation of 647 housing units is a big increase from the previous allocation of 31 units.

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ECR-WSS



CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES
30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD
RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275



It's been nearly one year since the first COVID-19 vaccinations were administered to health care workers and those most vulnerable to contracting the virus.

Now, over 80% of eligible RPV residents have been vaccinated against COVID-19, and the FDA and CDC have approved vaccinations for children ages 5-11 and booster doses for everyone 18 and over. Learn more, find a walk-in clinic or make an appointment at <http://vaccinatelacounty.com>.

CIVICS LESSON

The French writer Guy De Maupassant allegedly said that his favorite place to eat lunch in Paris was under the Eiffel Tower because it was the only place in the City where he couldn't see it. Now that sounds like un très grumpy Parisian, but many visitors to the Civic Center can probably relate. After decades with limited development at a site with F-rated infrastructure surrounded by majestic views of the Peninsula, Pacific Ocean and Catalina Island, the Civic Center site is most-often appreciated looking outwards, not inwards.



With the help of the Civic Center Advisory Committee, plans are in motion to shift that perspective and make the Civic Center site live up to its vast potential as a vital community hub and be more of a beautiful eyeful than, well, a bit awful.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING

- A program document listing components and estimated square footage has been revised to reflect changes since it was first approved in 2019.
- A project management firm should be under contract by early 2022 to assist with all elements of this challenging project from now through completion.
- Financial options are being explored. A facilitated workshop on municipal funding of capital projects is planned for early 2022.
- An extensive public outreach process, perhaps the largest in the City's history, will get underway in 2022 including multiple workshops, presentations to homeowners associations, and meetings with interested parties.
- The City is looking at naming the site after City founder and current Councilmember Ken Dyda.

WANT TO LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED?

Go to <http://www.rpvca.gov/1009/Civic-Center-Master-Plan> to see Civic Center documents and be linked to CCAC reports. Go to <http://rpvca.gov/notify> to receive official notifications and updates or contact mattw@rpvca.gov for more information.

DON'T BE IN A SCHOOL DAZE:
BACK TO SCHOOL SAFE DRIVING TIPS



- IF YOU'RE DROPPING OFF:**
- Don't double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles.
 - Don't load or unload children across the street from the school.
 - Carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school.

- SHARING THE ROAD WITH YOUNG PEDESTRIANS:**
- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic.
 - In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection.
 - Always stop for a school patrol officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign.
 - Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas.

- SHARING THE ROAD WITH SCHOOL BUSES:**
- Never pass a bus from behind when it's stopped.
 - If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop.
 - The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus.

GREEN AND RED (AND YELLOW)
LIGHTS, BUT MOSTLY GREEN

NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL ON THE WAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS!



The new traffic signal at the intersection of Palos Verdes Drive South and Palos Verdes Drive East is expected to be completed by the end of December. The new signal is designed to remain green on Palos Verdes Drive South, only turning red to allow traffic to turn from or onto Palos Verdes Drive East (for a limited duration). Once the signal is operational, engineers will monitor the signal timing and make adjustments to optimize traffic flow.

Construction of this project is limited to approximately 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, with regular partial eastbound and west bound bike lane closures around the intersection. Expect delays, proceed cautiously through the work zone, and follow all signs and instructions.

Visit <http://rpvca.gov/volunteer> for more info,
or email volunteer@rpvca.gov

BECKY MARTIN (Continued from page 1)

City workers usually wear many hats and you're no exception. Tell us about the different jobs you've had with the City?

In September 1975, I started as an afternoon Recreation Leader where I taught tennis, archery, fencing, Wee-Tots, and oversaw RPV park and summer day camp programs. Handling class registration and recreation payroll improved my accounting skills while I taught sports.

In 1985, I transferred to the Finance Department, where I was an Account Clerk. My duties included overseeing the City's first payroll computer program as well as business licenses, trust accounts, and false alarms. I later worked the front counter in the lobby and handled the phone switchboard. Eventually I moved upstairs to assist with accounts payable.

In 1996 I transferred to the Public Works Department and became the City's first Permit Clerk. I learned a new perspective on how the City works by issuing permits for any work to be conducted within the City's public rights-of-way. I read plans to assist engineers with sewer and house lateral locations. I even conducted a few inspections of new driveway approaches and sidewalk removal and replacements. Years later, I was promoted to Permit Technician whose duties included not only encroachment but also parking permits, maintenance support, special events, recycling, and traffic safety information.

What does a Permit Technician do and what qualities are needed to do well in that role?

The Permit Technician's primary job is issuing encroachment and parking permits to contractors and homeowners. Computer skills, attention to detail, ability to read complex

documents, and a general knowledge of the City are necessary qualities for this position.

What changes have you seen at the City since 1975?

All the open spaces becoming houses, more City employees instead of outside contractors, and Palos Verdes Drive South being relocated a few times due to the landslide movement.

After almost 50 years, what motivates you to come to work every day?

Obviously, the location of City Hall with the spectacular views, the residents I have met since first starting and seeing their children become adults, and the way I have understood how the City functions as I continued to change departments.

Do you have a particular story or memory you want to (or can) share?

I remember when Palos Verdes Drive South was a dirt road and it would be scraped at least once a month. Growing up in Lunada Bay it was the Sunday ride over the "bumpy" road!

How do you enjoy spending time away from work?

Family, animals, sports, showing a quarter horse in the Western Trail Division, and house sitting for friends so their animals can stay in their own environment.

Favorite book, movie, type of music/sport etc...?

Louis L'Amour books, animal stories, country music, LA Dodgers, and LA Rams.

Editor's Note: All the best to you, Becky, as you ride off into the sunset. It's been a pleasure working with you for 30 of your 47 years. Happy Trails!



The City Council reviews bills pending in Congress and the California Legislature and takes positions on important issues and matters that impact the City's ability to operate effectively, promote City interests and protect local authority.

On November 2, the City Council adopted the City's first annual Legislative Platform, providing a single document that shares the City's positions on local land use and control, public safety, environmental quality, and more. The platform is shared with the City's elected officials to help guide their policymaking and is used by Staff to help track bills of interest to the City.

To view the City's 2022 Legislative Platform, find more information on the City's legislative advocacy efforts, and to see updated information on pending bills, go to <http://rpvca.gov/legislationcorner>.

WORK IT OUT!



If you're looking to start a career in public sector, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes is hiring and interested in hearing from you! To view our current job opportunities, visit our careers page at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/rpvca>

If we aren't currently recruiting for a position that fits your career path, click on Menu located in the top left hand corner of our careers page, and complete a Job Interest Card. You'll receive an email notification each time a position opens with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes whose category matches one of the categories you've chosen.

LET IT FLOW, LET IT FLOW, LET IT FLOW

Cleaning is not just for springtime! The rainy season will be upon us before you know it. Now is a good time to clean out the drainage swales on your property and let the rainwater flow properly.

Drainage swales, also referred to as "bench drains" or "V-ditches," tend to become filled with leaves, overgrown vegetation, and debris throughout the year. If you have a drainage swale on your property, it's your responsibility to maintain it so that it functions properly.

As an additional reminder, the City's Municipal Code 17.56.060 does not permit the construction of any structure within or above a drainage swale, or on a slope on or equal to 35% or greater. This includes decks, stairs, or structures of any kind. Please keep this in mind if you're planning a project near or on a slope. It's always a good idea to contact the Community Development Department at 310.544.5288 before starting any project to determine if approvals and/or permits will be required.

WESTERN-IT'S YOUR BEST TURN!



Go West, young person—straight to Western Avenue. Aesthetic and landscaping Improvements are happening aplenty on this thoroughfare that divides the City of RPV from San Pedro. In recent months, the City has repaired damaged concrete planters, installed new flowers, re-established some grass areas, painted benches, traffic control boxes and curbs; removed unused newspaper stands, and replaced existing trash cans with more attractive receptacles.

But wait, there's more. Over the next several months, with cooperation from adjacent property owners, the

City intends to paint the tract perimeter walls a uniform color. Further down the road, the City plans to implement a capital improvement project to install more comprehensive landscaping, City entry monuments, low-voltage ornamental lighting, street furniture, and banners. So keep your hands on the wheel, your eyes on the road, and let your passengers enjoy the new Western scenery.

RPV HOUSING UNITS (Continued from page 1)

The draft Housing Element, which was released in October, includes a site inventory of potential housing sites throughout the City to accommodate the new housing units. The list consists of vacant and developed properties along commercial corridors like Western Avenue and Silver Spur Road as well as in residential neighborhoods on Montemalaga Drive, Palos Verdes Drive South and Palos Verdes Drive East. While the City is not required to build the new housing units, nor has

the City received any applications for development of the sites, RPV is required by State law to plan and remove the barriers for the development of these new housing sites.

For more information about the Housing Element Update process and the Housing Sites Inventory, please visit <http://rpvca.gov/housingelement>. Stay in the loop by signing up for the Housing Element listserv at <http://rpvca.gov/notify>.

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS:

BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL PROCESS

Business license renewal applications are due prior to commencing operations and expire each December 31st. In mid-December, City staff will mail 2022 business license renewal applications to all currently licensed businesses. This application should be completed and returned with payment to City Hall by January 31, 2022. Upon receiving a completed renewal application and license tax payment, a 2022 Business Tax Certificate will be mailed. Penalties will be assessed on any license application received on or after February 1, 2022, at 5% for each month delinquent up to 50% of the total license tax. No extensions or waivers of the penalty amount will be granted.



HOW DO I COMPLETE A BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL?

The renewal application is easy, takes only minutes to finish, and can be completed in one of three ways:

- 1. Online:** File on-line by going to the City's website at <https://rpvpay.com/businesslicense>.
- 2. By Mail:** Return the application and your check made payable to "City of Rancho Palos Verdes" to the following address:

City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Attention: Business License
30940 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

- 2. In Person:** You can also pay your renewal in person at City Hall in the Community Development Department.

Questions: Contact the Business License Coordinator at 310.544.5301. For additional information refer to Chapter 5.04 of the City's Municipal Code or visit the City of Rancho Palos Verdes website at rpvca.gov.

TAKE A RIDE ON PV TRANSIT

Paul Simon recommended "Hop on the Bus, Gus" back in the 70's and that's still good advice today! Keep public transit in mind the next time you plan a trip. Information about Palos Verdes Peninsula Transit Authority (PVPTA) including Dial-A-Ride, route maps, "TAP" pass cards, and trip planning assistance is available at <http://www.palosverdes.com/pvtransit/>. Enjoy the ride!



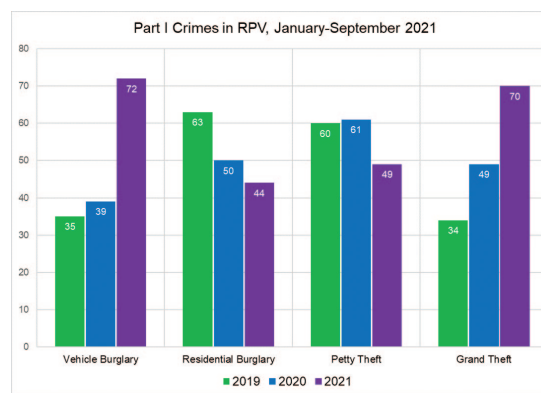
WINTER CRIME CORNER



Public safety is a top City priority. Protecting yourself and those around you begins with learning what to do, how to prepare and react, and becoming connected in your community.

Report: Focus on Thefts and Burglaries

From January-September 2021, there were 253 Part 1 Crimes in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. Part 1 Crimes are classified by the FBI and fall into two categories: violent crimes and property crimes, which include robberies, burglaries, thefts, assaults, and arson. Residential burglaries decreased by over 10% compared to the same period last year, but there has been an increase in vehicle burglaries and grand thefts. Many of the vehicle burglaries were of items left behind in visible places – always bring your valuables with you when you leave your vehicle, or lock them in your trunk before reaching your destination. Many of the grand thefts were the result of valuables being left in unlocked vehicles.



To view weekly crime reports and an interactive map of crimes in the City, visit <http://rpvca.gov>. Sign up to receive notifications when weekly crime reports are released via the City's Nextdoor page <https://nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ca/palos-verdes-peninsula/city-of-rancho-palos-verdes/> page or sign up for email notification at <http://rpvca.gov/notify>.

10 Days of Holiday Safety: Better Than a Partridge in a Pear Tree or Four Calling Birds!

Be on the lookout for the City's 10 Days of Holiday Safety messages!

On the first day of holiday safety the City said to me – If you see something suspicious, say something! Safety is a shared responsibility. Always be aware of your surroundings. Get to know your neighbors and be on the lookout for things that seem out of place. **Report suspicious activity in RPV to the Lomita Sheriff's Station at 310.539.1661, or call 911 in an emergency.**

Follow the City's social media pages or website for more holiday safety tips!



SWEEPING CHANGES:

HOLIDAY STREET SWEEPING



Sweeping will be performed on Friday, December 24. No sweeping will occur on Friday, December 31, as it is a fifth Friday. On sweeping days, please remove parked cars from the street to allow for optimal sweeping of your street. Help make it a clean sweep!

DECEMBER FREE HOLIDAY EXCESS TRASH COLLECTION

EDCO offers free excess trash collection for three weeks during the holiday season (December 26th to January 15th). You may temporarily place excess trash in your old standard-sized cans and/or in plastic bags. No loose material will be accepted. If you can't donate, call 310.540.2977 for a free curbside pickup.



HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE



December 2021: No delay in service.
January 2022: No delay in service.
Questions? Call EDCO at 310.540.2977 or www.rpvrecycles.com. Leave all containers at the curb no later than 7 am on collection day.

Regulations for Hours for Trash Cart/Can Placement and Storage: The City's Municipal Code (Section 8.20.330) has regulations on when trash, recycling and green waste carts can be left at the curb for collection. Carts can be placed at the curb after 4 pm the day before collection day and empty carts must be removed no later than 10 pm on collection day. Empty carts CANNOT be left on the street overnight. Containers have to be stored on the side or back of the property, at a location that is substantially screened from view. Please help keep your neighborhood attractive and aesthetically pleasing.

CITY HALL PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall Main Line	310.544.5200
City Manager's Office	310.544.5207
City Clerk's Office	310.544.5217
Finance	310.544.5304
Community Development	310.544.5228
Human Resources	310.544.5327
Public Works	310.544.5252
Recreation and Parks	310.544.5260
Building & Safety Division	310.544.5280
Code Enforcement	310.544.5281

CITY COUNCIL

Eric Alegria, Mayor*
Email: eric.alegria@rpvca.gov

David Bradley, Mayor Pro Tem*
Email: david.bradley@rpvca.gov

John Cruikshank, Councilmember
Email: john.cruikshank@rpvca.gov

Ken Dyda, Councilmember
Email: ken.dyda@rpvca.gov

Barbara Ferraro, Councilmember
Email: barbara.ferraro@rpvca.gov

Email cc@rpvca.gov to contact the entire City Council

***Editor's Note:** The City Council will be selecting a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem on December 7.

CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES NEWSLETTER

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MAKE THE CONNECTION!

GET UPDATES FROM THE CITY

Follow us on Nextdoor, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Get notifications from City listservs
rpvca.gov/notify

Sign up for Alert SouthBay emergency alerts
alertsouthbay.com

Text "alertsb" to 888-777
or download the Everbridge app

In 1910, *Room With a View* author E.M.Forster famously encouraged people to "Only connect!" And that's easier to do now since there are so many more ways to connect. Besides this newsletter, here are a number of ways to get City news and updates and stay connected!

The **City website** is a regularly updated hub of all things RPV and City Hall, with new events and items of interest posted on the homepage. Check it out at www.rpvca.gov.

Get updates sent to your email inbox by subscribing to the **Breaking News listserv** (and listservs for any other topics that interest you) on the City website at <http://rpvca.gov/notify>.

Download the free MyRPV app. MyRPV provides Rancho Palos Verdes residents, businesses, and visitors access to City Hall 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from anywhere, via their smartphone or tablet. You can submit service requests, access all kinds of City information, and get push alerts in real time by allowing the app to send you notifications.

Download MyRPV for your iOS or Android device by searching "MyRPV."

Follow the City on social media. You can find us on Nextdoor, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube (RPVtv). Find direct links to our social media pages at the top of the City website at www.rpvca.gov.

Read the City Manager's Weekly Administrative Report. Every Wednesday, the City Manager puts out a comprehensive report summarizing the activities of each City department, plus resources for residents, recreation opportunities, upcoming events, crime reports, and more. The report is available on the City website at <http://rpvca.gov/weeklyreport>. You can also get it in your email inbox by subscribing to the Weekly Administrative Reports listserv on the City website at <http://rpvca.gov/notify>.

Tune in to RPVtv. RPVtv is a local educational access channel provided to the community of Rancho Palos Verdes on Cox Cable channel 33, Frontier FiOS channel 38 and on YouTube. We invite you to tune in to see community interest programming from all around the Peninsula. You can also view RPV City Council and Planning Commission meetings.

Sign up for emergency alerts from Alert SouthBay by texting "alertsb" to 888-777, registering at <https://alertsouthbay.com/>, or downloading the Everbridge app at <https://www.everbridge.com/products/mobile-apps/download/>.

Visit, call, or email us. City staff is always happy to provide information and assist you. Visit us at City Hall (30940 Hawthorne Boulevard), call the main line at 310.544.5200, or call or email staff. A Staff Directory is available on the City website (there's also a list of department phone numbers on this page of the newsletter).

GREEN CORNER

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Recycling your Christmas tree is easy. 1) Remove the base, ornaments, tinsel, and garland. 2) Leave your Christmas tree at the curb on your regular collection day between December 26 and January 15. Flocked trees are also acceptable and will be recycled. 3) No need to cut the tree into smaller pieces. However, any tree over 6 feet tall should be cut in half.

If you live in a multi-family complex, contact your management company or homeowners association for the designated tree drop-off location. This location is typically in the garage area or by the recycling bins.

YOU CLEANED YOUR GARAGE. NOW WHAT?

You could use the holiday time to check your garage and gardening shed for chemicals and hazardous waste items you can donate. Need to dispose of old paint, automotive fluid, pesticides, expired medicine, TVs, computers or microwaves? Take them to the Gaffey Safe Center located at 1400 N. Gaffey, San Pedro. Open to LA County residents every Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 3 pm. For more information, click on [S.A.F.E. Centers & Mobile Collection Events](https://www.lacitysan.org/) (<https://www.lacitysan.org/>).

The City of Lomita is hosting their annual County sponsored HHW roundup on December 18 at Lomita City Hall Parking Lot, 24300 Narbonne Avenue, Lomita, CA 90717 from 9 am to 3 pm. Click on this link for more information: <https://pw.lacounty.gov/general/enotifyCalendar/>.